



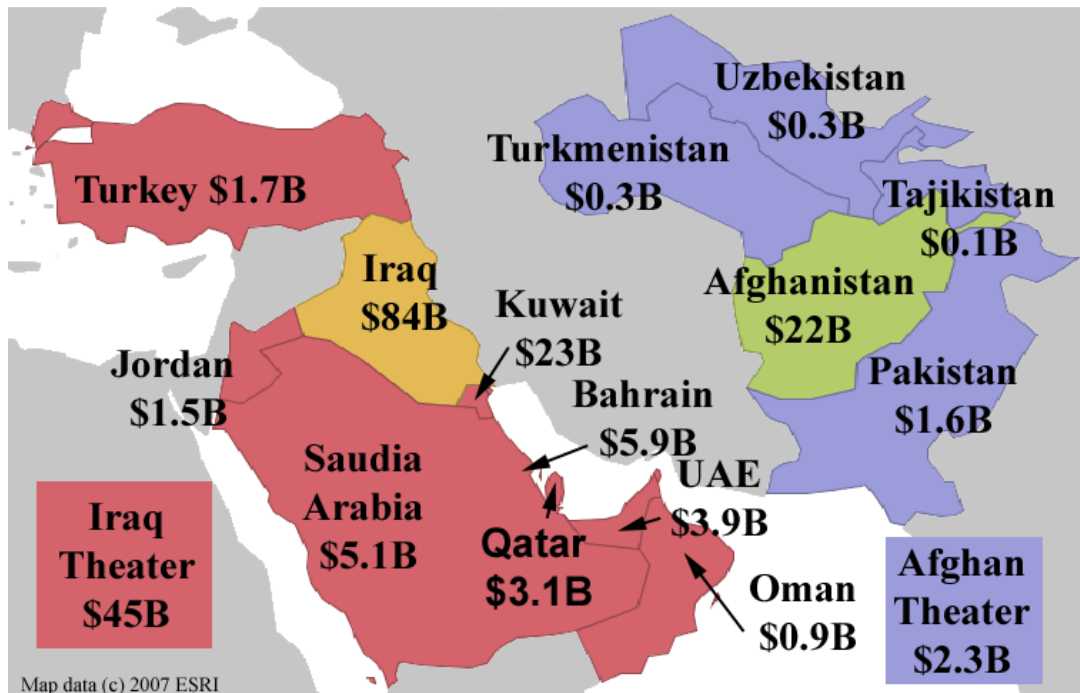
Incorporating Existing Data on Contracts into Policy Evaluations

**U.S. Department of State Fourth
Annual
Conference on Program Evaluation
June 7-8, 2011
George C. Marshall Center**



Why does contracting data matter?

USG Contract Spending 2001-preliminary 2009





What are your preferred tools? or What can your staff do?

- Making charts and graphs?
- Combining multiple datasets?
- Handling large volumes of data using spreadsheets or statistical software?
- Using search tools to access online database?
- Forming SQL database queries?
- Managing databases larger than a gigabyte in size?
- Creating or editing computer programs?
- Authoring dynamic webpages?



What do you want to find out?

- Timeliness:
 - Up-to-the minute data? Past few years?
Back to 2004? Historical data?
- Filter:
 - Broken down by agency? Product/service?
Contractor? Agency? Country? Contract?
- Complexity
 - Comparing across years? Between categories?



Where can I get the data?

- It depends on what you are comfortable with and what you need to find out:
 1. USAspending.gov
 2. FPDS.gov standard queries
 3. FPDS.gov ad hoc queries
 4. FPDS.gov atom feeds
 5. FPDS.gov data archives
 6. DD350s data archives
 7. Subscription services



**Placeholder for live
demonstration based on the
interests of the audience**



Key Caveats

- The database does not track contract performance
- Treasury account labeling tends to be missing
- Some entries are blank, contradictory, or unhelpful
- Even the back years are regularly updated
- Identifying parent companies requires access to a subscription service or drudgery



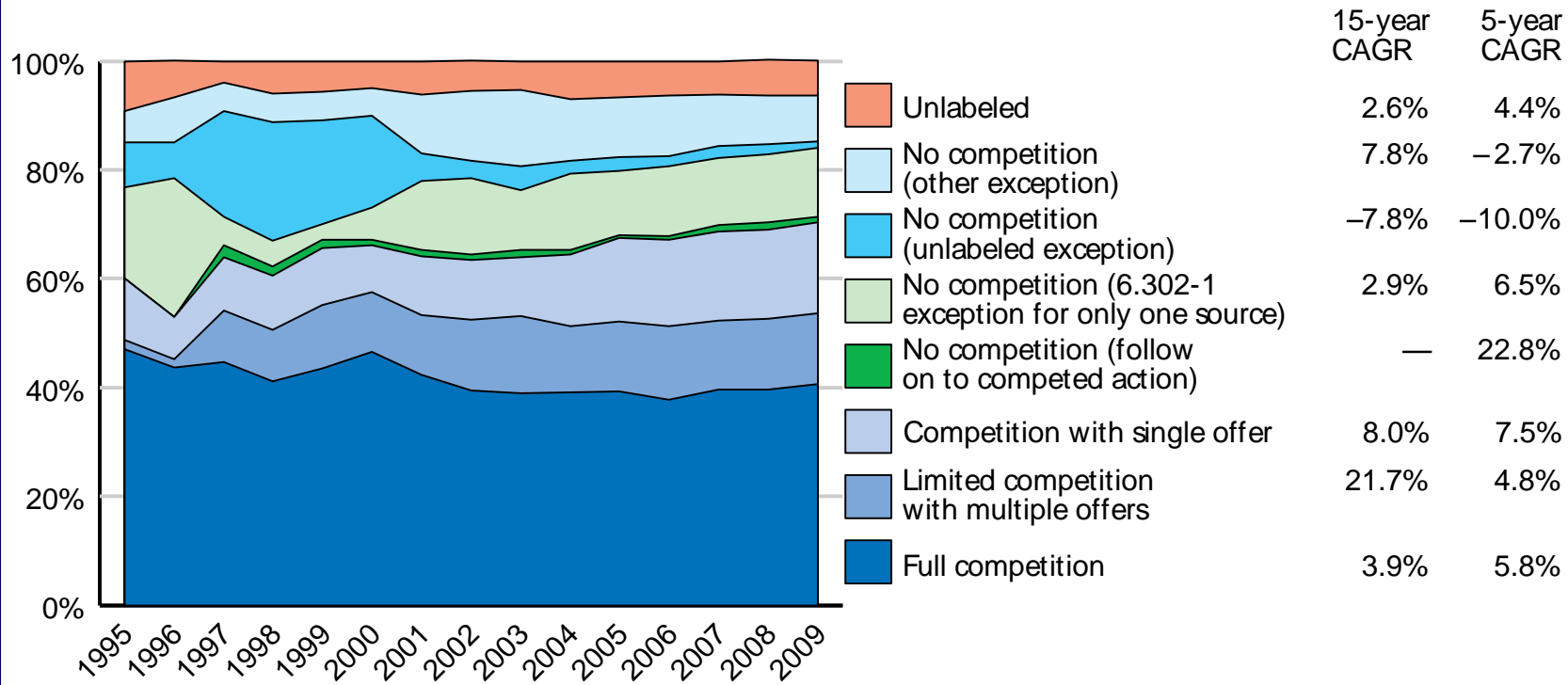
Case Studies

- Federal Professional Services
- Major Defense Acquisition Project Cost Overruns
- Field Contracting in Iraq and Afghanistan



Case Study: Federal Professional Services

Prof. Services Competition by Value

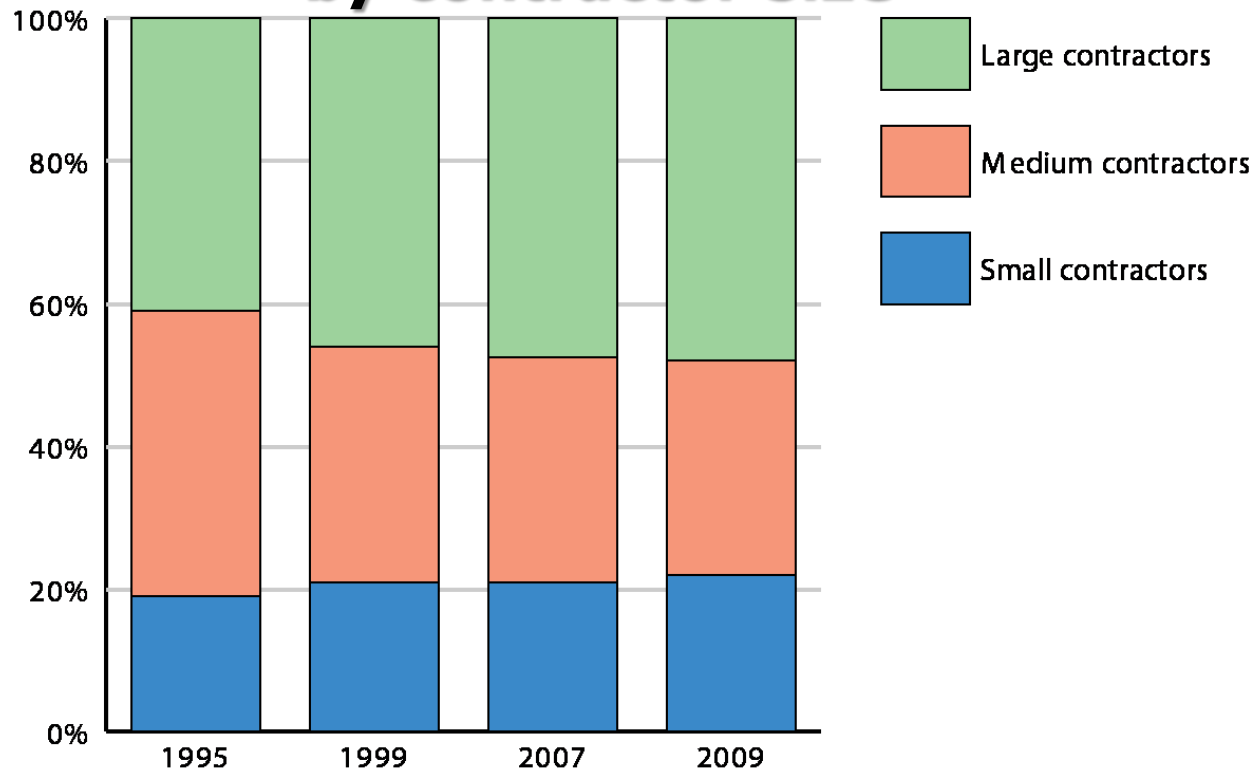


● Sources: FPDS



Case Study: Federal Professional Services

Professional services contract value by contractor size

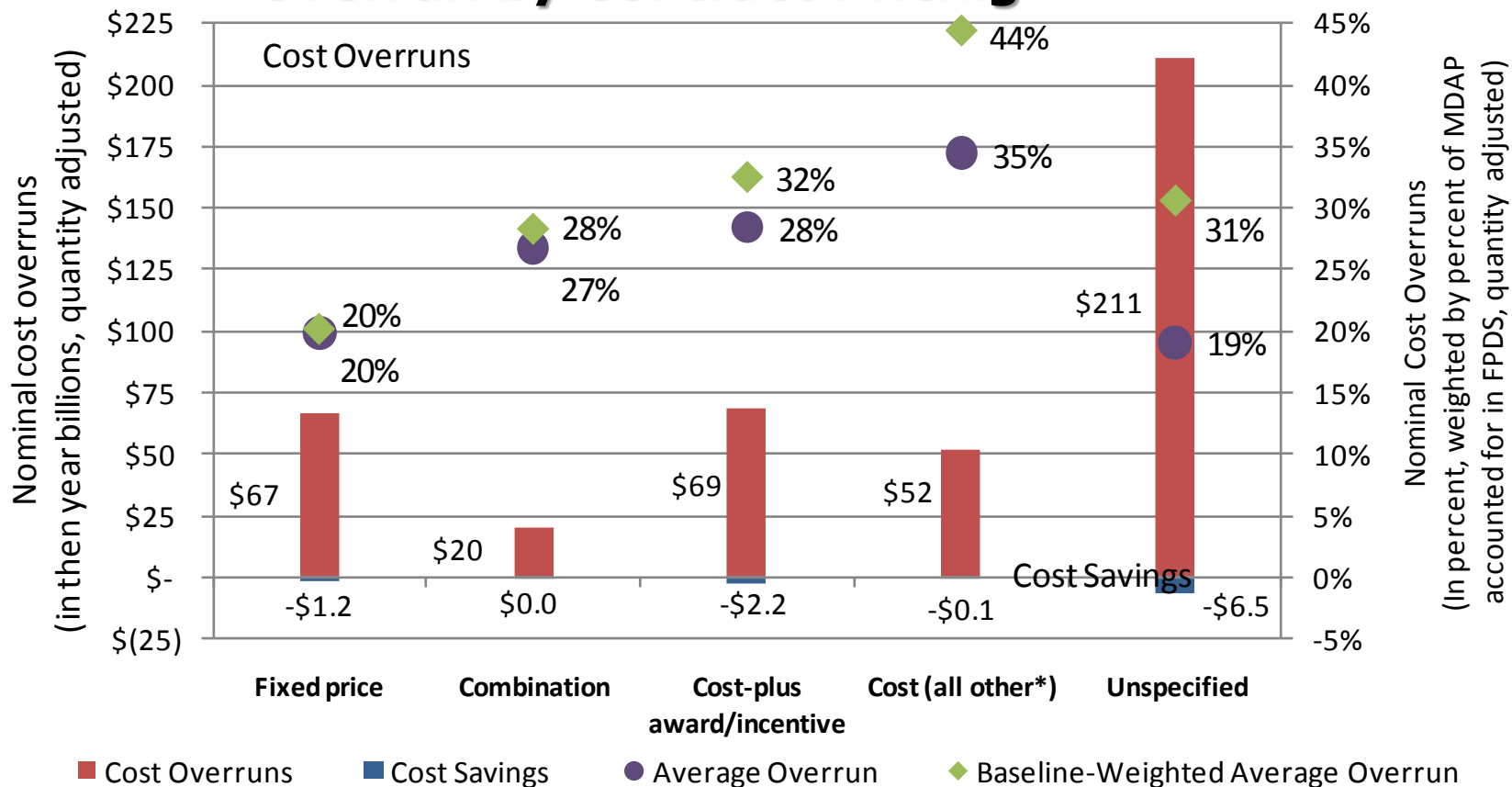


- Sources: FPDS, DUNS identifiers, Bloomberg, DACIS, manual research



Case Study: Major Defense Acquisition Project Cost Overruns

Quantity Adjusted Overrun by Contract Pricing



● Sources: FPDS



Case Study: Field Contracting in Iraq and Afghanistan

Security Contractors 2001-2009

Contractor	Security Sector			Overall
	Afghan.	Iraq	SIGIR Discrep.	Total
DynCorp	1,657	930	76	4,863
Xe/Blackwater	157	1,283	68	1,440
Triple Canopy	0	698	74	699
EOD Tech.	4	422	(81)	674
Aegis Def. Serv.	0	180	619	278
Other PSCs	109	274	1,476	9,664
Total PSCs	1,926	3,787	2,232	17,618
Other Companies	131	1,071	(913)	126,992
Overall Total	2,057	4,859	1,319	144,610

- Sources: SIGIR, CBO, and manually identified contracts.



Case Study: Field Contracting in Iraq and Afghanistan

Iraq and Afghanistan Contracts by Purchaser

Purchaser	Annual Values FY2001-FY2008					Overall FY2001-Preliminary FY2009		
	Iraq War		Afghan. War		Both	Ratio Iraq:Afgn.	Total	Top Product or Service
	Trend	2008	Trend	2008				
Total		23,632		7,319	30,951	84:16	153,222	Services 64%, Products 20%
AMC		6,587		974	7,561	91:09	40,716	LOGCAP III 81%
ACE		2,075		1,449	3,524	72:28	18,221	Construction/Facility Serv. 76%
Other Army		730		20	750	95:05	10,984	Range of Services 88%
JCC-I/A		6,166		1,330	7,496	86:14	27,191	Missing Label 87%
DLA		5,162		1,753	6,915	87:13	25,777	Fuels and Propellants 68%
Air Force		1,249		649	1,899	81:19	12,237	Construction/Facility Serv. 65%
Navy and other DoD		441		87	528	85:15	3,263	Range of Services 87%
State		841		676	1,517	64:36	9,627	Security Sector 52%
US AID		331		376	707	66:34	4,751	Admin. and Management 91%
Other Civilian		50		4	54	84:16	455	Admin. and Management 77%

- Sources: FPDS, manually identified contracts.



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